

**From:** (b) (6) CTR ONR, BD04 on behalf of ONRFOIA  
**To:** ["agency@nationalcorp.com"](mailto:agency@nationalcorp.com)  
**Subject:** ONR FOIA 16-017  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 12:46:00  
**Attachments:** [16-017 FOIA Req..pdf](#)

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Mr. (b) (6)

Thank you for speaking with me and our FOIA attorney via telephone on December 29, 2015 regarding your FOIA request numbered 16-017. Please refer to it by that number when communicating with us regarding your request. A copy of your request is included with this letter.

We stated that this request would be late, but our online tracking system was showing us a deadline for DNS-36 (Chief of Naval Operations) and not for ONR (Office of Naval Research). Since DNS did not transfer your request to ONR until Dec 8, 2015, we have 20 working days from that date to process your request. We would be then be required to respond by January 7, 2015. However, we do need clarification regarding your request. We would like to ask you to clarify your request and possibly narrow it, in the interest of saving you time and expense.

Specifically, we need clarification on the following:

1. You asked for "all records, including emails or other documents of the military service trademark licensing office since Jan. 1, 2013, concerning the licensing of seals of the military department on challenge coins...." Two questions:

1.a. The Navy does not license use of the Navy seal on challenge coins (or for any other purpose), so any responsive records would be limited to emails or other correspondence denying any requests for licensing of the Navy seal on challenge coins. Because many emails were sent or received by employees who no longer work at ONR, a search for those emails will be lengthy and costly. Our question is whether you would still be interested in such emails or other correspondence denying use of the Navy seal on challenge coins?

1.b. Since the Navy does not license use of the Navy seal for any purpose, our question is whether your request extends to records concerning the licensing of other Navy-owned marks (for example, the "America's Navy" mark, unit and ship crests, etc.) on challenge coins, or whether it is limited to the Navy seal?

2. You also asked for "all records of military service trademark licensing office since Jan 1, 2013, concerning licensing to profit and non-profit colleges and universities." Four questions:

2.a. The Navy does not license Navy-owned marks to colleges and universities. Instead, the Navy may issue "permission letters" to colleges and universities (profit or non-profit) to use a Navy-owned mark. Although a license and a permission letter are quite different, functionally they are similar in that both allow the recipient to use a Navy-owned mark. Our question is whether you would be interested in records concerning "permission letters" to colleges and universities?

2.b. If you would like records concerning permission letters to colleges and universities, our question is whether your request is limited to use of Navy-owned marks on challenge coins (by colleges and universities) or does the request extend to use by colleges and universities of Navy-owned marks on any article, not just challenge coins?

2.c. Again assuming you would like records regarding permission letters to colleges and universities, and in the interest of narrowing your request in order to save you time and money, our question is whether there is a particular college or university (or particular colleges or universities) to which we can limit our search, or would you really like responsive records concerning all colleges and universities?

2.d. As stated previously, searching for emails sent or received by our former employees is a lengthy and costly process. Our question here is whether your request for records includes emails concerning permission letters to

colleges and universities?

The sooner we receive clarification, the sooner we can continue processing your request. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Thank you,

(b) (6)

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**From:** (b) (6)  
**To:** (b) (6) [CTR ONR, BD04](#)  
**Subject:** Read: ONR FOIA 16-017  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 14:12:17

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Your message

To:  
Subject: ONR FOIA 16-017  
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 2:12:16 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
was read on Tuesday, December 29, 2015 2:11:13 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).